

notably the work of the late Frank N. Meyer, who sent thousands of plants from China, many of which even now rank among our most desirable products. The large tamopan persimmon (*Diospyros kaki*) from China, now commonly seen on the market, and the Chinese jujube (*Ziziphus jujuba*), are among his introductions. From Africa have been introduced the long-staple Egyptian cotton (*Gossypium barbadense*), Sudan grass (*Holcus sorghum sudanensis*), Rhodes grass (*Chloris gayana*), and many of the more important Kafir corns and sorghums (*Holcus sorghum*), crops which mean approximately \$50,000,000 in crop values to the United States each year, and the development of semi-arid lands not adapted to previously grown agricultural crops.

In Cape Colony, Dr. Shantz went east to Port Elizabeth, where the famous "Addo bush" occurs. Many plants were secured, one of the most interesting being the speckboom (*Portulacaria afra*) which covers whole hillsides with its succulent growth, and is one of the most important foods of the elephant; it is relished by cattle and sheep, and there is a chance of its becoming of value in Southern California. It is probable that speckboom will grow under practically the same conditions as the utterly worthless chapparal of southwestern California.

Dr. Shantz then passed northwest over the Karroo Desert, similar to that in the Great Basin of the United States, but differing in the respect that most of the plants form excellent forage for sheep, cattle, and ostriches, and it seems probable that some of the more desirable of these desert plants may be utilized in our desert country to improve the range.

In the great Transvaal agricultural area, corn (*Zea mays*), known as "mealies," is the chief crop. One of the most important varieties is our own "Boone County White," a gift from America of considerable value to the farmers of the Transvaal.

In the low veldt at Nelspruit are large orchards of subtropical trees and fruits, many varieties of which have not been grown in the United States. It is hoped that an arrangement will be made whereby they can be secured for test in this country. Among them are some particularly desirable mangoes (*Mangifera indica*), adaptable to Florida.

The route then lay to the seacoast at Lourenco Marques and by ocean steamer to Beira. Dr. Shantz arranged with the agriculturist there to get some desirable East African mangoes which the Department has wanted for several years.